

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

15 AUGUST 1962

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Soviet Spacecraft Return

The two Soviet spacecraft were successfully deorbited and returned early this morning (about 0300 EDT) to the prescribed recovery area just north of Lake Balkhash. They landed six minutes (and ten kilometers) apart. Khrushchev has returned to Moscow from his vacation retreat for the celebration. Vostok III, up since Saturday, was in its 64th orbit 50X1 and Vostok IV, launched on Sunday, was in its 48th.

2. Laos

a. Souphannouvong, once again back in Vientiane from his trip to Plaine des Jarres, has announced he will release the American prisoners on Friday.

b. International Control Commission chief Singh has formally asked us for four helicopters (to buy or rent) by the end of the month. (He got the reluctant approval of the 50X1 Polish ICC member for four, having originally argued that six were needed.)

50X1

3. Argentina

a. Argentina's slow-motion coup is on again as the General Montero faction of the Army continues to place its partisans in strategic command positions.

50X1

c. As expected, Guido's cabinet is falling apart with Defense Minister Cantilo the first (but probably not the last) to quit.

NOTES

- A. Ben Bella is getting some static from his army chiefs who are asking for an equal voice in naming candidates for next month's elections to the assembly. At least one military district is trying to block moves to convert it to civil administration. 50X1

- C. The Thais and Cambodians are still scuffling daily in the area of the Wiharn Temple. Each charges the other with invading his territory. There have been several casualties so far and one border police killed. 50X1

- D. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] in the Dominican Republic [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] plotting 50X1
to overthrow it. Rumors of an impending coup are circulating once again [redacted]. 50X1

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

50X1

I.

II.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE